

SENATE BILL NO. 712

BY SENATORS NEVERS, ALARIO, APPEL, DONAHUE, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS,
THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:1875, relative to postsecondary education; to authorize the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges to create a Centers of Excellence Program; to provide for Board of Regents' approval; to provide with respect to an advisory board; to provide limitations; to provide relative to admissions, curriculum, tuition and fees, and other program parameters; to provide relative to funding and other resources to support the program; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:1875 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1875. Centers of Excellence Program; creation; operation; funding

A. The Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, with the approval of and in coordination with the Board of Regents, may establish a Centers of Excellence Program to provide customized educational and training programs to meet areas of need as identified by Louisiana business and industry.

B.(1) The board may establish an advisory board composed of not more than seven individuals representing private businesses with high workforce training demands, which shall have the following duties:

(a) Assist in the identification of the needs of business and industry.

(b) Provide consultation regarding admissions, curriculum, equipment needs, tuition and fee models, and other aspects of the operation of a Center of Excellence as prescribed by the board.

(2) No public funds shall be used to compensate a member of the advisory board for the performance of his duties on the board or to pay any per diem or other expenses related to the performance of his duties as a board member.

1 C.(1) A Center of Excellence may be established only with private sector
2 support, including funding or the donation of land or equipment, and shall be
3 operated on a business model conducive to real-time market responsiveness
4 which provides for flexibility in pricing, service delivery, and administration.
5 (2) The Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges may
6 establish a tuition and fee structure for a Center of Excellence that differs from
7 that established for other courses or programs offered by institutions within the
8 Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____